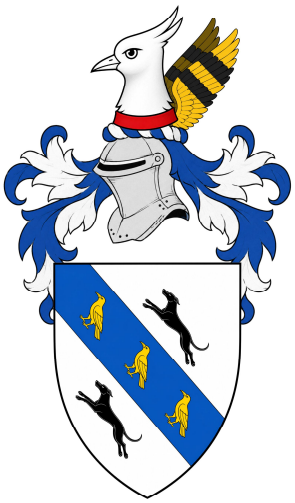
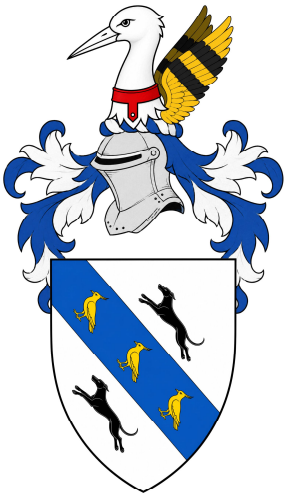
# Scroggs and Scrugges Heraldry

## *Historical Reconstructions based on the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Visitations*





Compiled by Brandon Taylor Scruggs (2026)

**Text** and **Reconstructions** by Brandon Taylor Scruggs (2026)

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The **Historical Blazons** are Public Domain. *See* References. Heraldic blazons describe a coat of arms in words rather than prescribing a single artistic design.

Individual **graphic elements** were generated using OpenAI tools (including ChatGPT) based on the Historical Blazons in the Public Domain. Ownership of generated output was assigned to the user (Brandon Taylor Scruggs, the Author/Compiler of this work) under OpenAI's Terms of Use, available here: https://openai.com/policies/terms-of-use/?utm_source=chatgpt.com (*see* "Ownership of content" under the "Content" section). The Compiler of this work assembled these graphic elements into the final compositions. The completed images are released by the Compiler under the Creative Commons CC0 1.0 Universal Public Domain Dedication.

**Images in the Appendix** are Public Domain, excerpted from Public Domain sources listed in the References section.

# INTRODUCTION

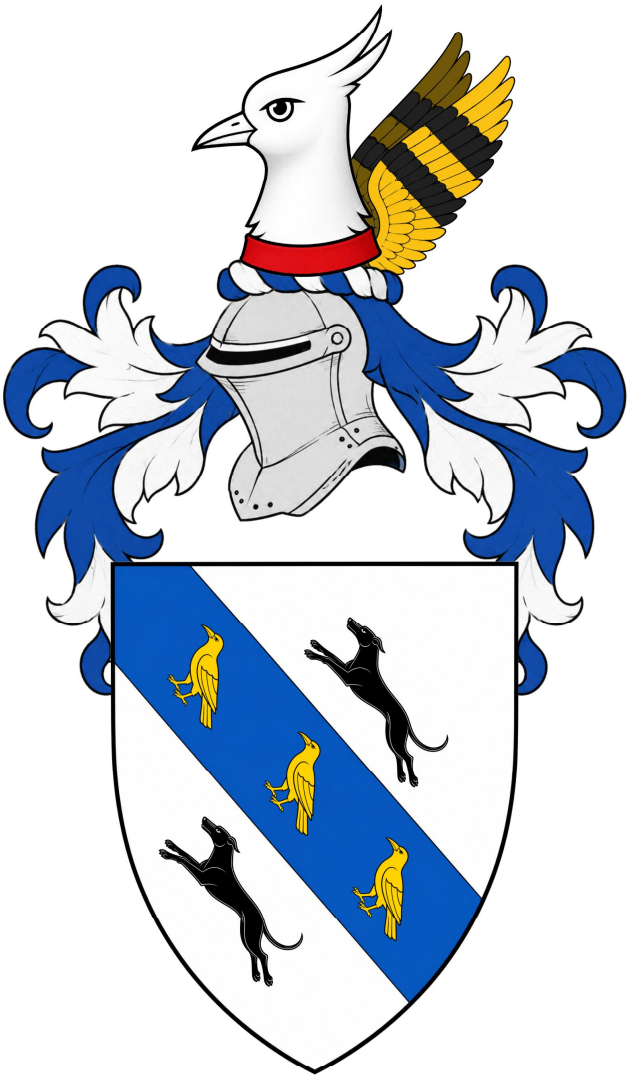
The Scroggs and Scrugges families of Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire appear in several heraldic and genealogical sources dating from the sixteenth through the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The images presented here are modern reconstructions based upon the historical blazons recorded in the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Visitations, together with corroborating evidence from Fairbairn, Burke, Papworth, and later family histories.

Both **traditional** heraldic and **modernized** naturalistic renderings are provided.

- **Traditional** versions follow the heraldic blazon literally, including the use of heraldic tinctures such as Or for the birds.
    - Color interpretations include:
        - Argent = Silver, interpreted in the traditional reconstructions as White
        - Azure = Blue
        - Gules = Red
        - Or = Gold, interpreted in the traditional reconstructions as Yellow
        - Sable = Black
    - Other elements include:
        - Addorsed/Endorsed: placed back-to-back, as in wings about to take flight
        - Bend: diagonal band running from upper left to lower right of shield
        - Bendways: placed diagonally across the shield, following the angle of the bend
        - Bendy: alternating diagonal stripes, by default running from upper left to lower right
        - Collared: depicted as having a collar around its neck
        - Courant: depicted in the act of running at full speed with all four legs outstretched in the air
        - Cornish Chough (*Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*), also known as the Red-billed Chough or simply Chough, a bird in the Crow family
        - Greyhound, an ancient dog breed associated with hunting and racing
        - Pewit (Peewit), a bird also known as the Northern Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*)
- **Modernized** versions employ more naturalistic coloration for the birds and shield metal while preserving the underlying heraldic design.

As with all heraldic artwork based on historical blazons, these reconstructions represent one possible artistic interpretation. Other renderings may differ in style, proportions, or details while remaining equally faithful to the underlying blazon. Heraldic blazons describe a coat of arms in words rather than prescribing a single artistic design.

These images are released under the CC0 Public Domain Dedication to encourage unrestricted use in historical, genealogical, and educational works.



## (1) Coat of Arms attributed to the Scroggs and Scrugges families of Bedfordshire (Traditional)

**Arms:** Argent, on a Bend Azure between two Greyhounds courant bendways Sable, three Cornish Choughs Or.

**Crest:** A Pewit's head Argent, Collared Gules, wings endorsed bendy of four Or and Sable.

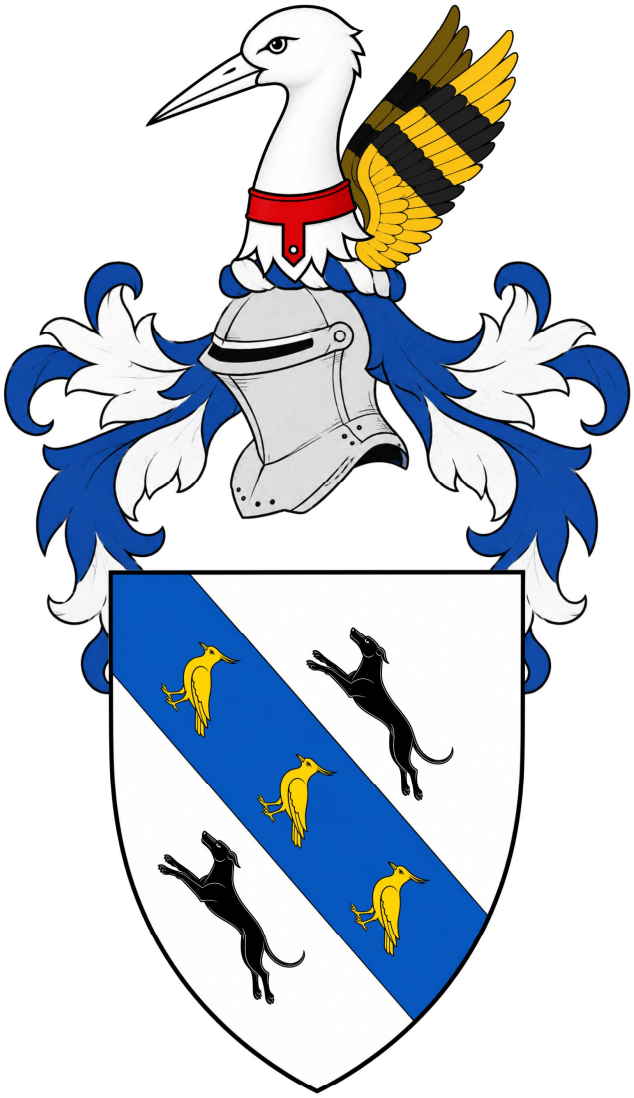
In ***Fairbairn's Book of Crests***, the crest is attributed to both Scroggs and Scrugges and the collar is Sable (Black) instead of Gules (Red). *See* References & Appendix.

## (2) Coat of Arms attributed to the Scroggs and Scrugges families of Bedfordshire (Modernized)

**Arms:** Argent, on a Bend Azure between two Greyhounds courant bendways Sable, three Cornish Choughs Or.

**Crest:** A Pewit's head Argent, Collared Gules, wings endorsed bendy of four Or and Sable.

In ***Fairbairn's Book of Crests***, the crest is attributed to both Scroggs and Scrugges and the collar is Sable (Black) instead of Gules (Red). *See* References & Appendix.



## (3) Coat of Arms attributed to the Scroggs family of Hertfordshire (Traditional)

**Arms:** Argent, on a Bend Azure between two Greyhounds courant bendways Sable, three Pewits Or.

**Crest:** A Stork's head Argent, Collared Gules, wings endorsed bendy of four Or and Sable.

## (4) Coat of Arms attributed to the Scroggs family of Hertfordshire (Modernized)

**Arms:** Argent, on a Bend Azure between two Greyhounds courant bendways Sable, three Pewits Or.

**Crest:** A Stork's head Argent, Collared Gules, wings endorsed bendy of four Or and Sable.

# REFERENCES

***The Visitations of Bedfordshire****, Annis Domini* ***1566, 1582, and 1634*** (published 1884 by the Harleian Society) made by William Harvey, Robert Cooke, and George Owen as deputy for Sir Richard St. George, at pages 154 and 195, available at the Internet Archive: https://archive.org/details/visitationsofbed19blay/mode/2up

***The Visitations of Hertfordshire, 1572, 1634****, with Hertfordshire Pedigrees* (published 1886 by the Harleian Society) made by Robert Cooke and Sir Richard St. George, at page 163, available at the Internet Archive: https://archive.org/details/visitationsofher222732cook/mode/2up

***Fairbairn's Book of Crests*** *of the Families of Great Britain and Ireland* (4th ed. 1905) by James Fairbairn, Volume 1, at page 497, available at the Internet Archive: https://archive.org/details/fairbairnsbookof01fair/mode/2up

*The* ***General Armory*** *of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales* (1884) by Sir Bernard **Burke** (aka **Burke's General Armory**), available at the Internet Archive: https://archive.org/details/generalarmoryofe00burk/mode/2up

*An Alphabetical Dictionary of Coats of Arms Belonging to Families in Great Britain and Ireland; Forming an Extensive Ordinary of British Armorials* (1874) by John W. Papworth (aka **Papworth's Ordinary of British Armorials**), available at the Internet Archive: https://archive.org/details/alphabeticaldicta01papw/mode/2up

**"Pedigree of the Scroggs Family"** in ***Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica***, Fifth Series (Series V), Volume 3, pages 65-82 (1918-1919) by J. Renton Dunlop, F.S.A. (Fellow of the Society of Antiquarians), with Scroggs Coat of Arms at/between pages 72-73, note 2 (Arms of Scroggs) at pages 80-81, available at the Internet Archive: https://archive.org/details/miscellaneagenea3191bann/mode/2up

***Scruggs Genealogy*** *with a brief history of the allied families Briscoe, Dial, Dunklin, Leake and Price* (1912) compiled by Ethel Hastings Scruggs Dunklin, at pages 7-9, available at the Internet Archive: https://archive.org/details/scruggsgenealogy00dunk/mode/2up

# IMAGE ATTRIBUTIONS

1) **Coat of Arms attributed to the Scroggs and Scrugges families of Bedfordshire (Traditional).** Coat of Arms of the Scroggs & Scrugges families of Bedfordshire, reconstructed by the Author/Compiler from historical blazons in the Public Domain. *See The Visitations of Bedfordshire, Annis Domini 1566, 1582, and 1634* (published 1884 by the Harleian Society), at pages 154 and 195; *Fairbairn's Book of Crests* (4th ed. 1905) at page 497; *Scruggs Genealogy* (1912) at pages 7-9; "Pedigree of the Scroggs Family" in *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica*, Fifth Series (Series V), Volume 3, pages 65-82 (1918-1919) by J. Renton Dunlop, with Scroggs Coat of Arms at/between pages 72-73, note 2 (Arms of Scroggs) at pages 80-81. Individual elements were rendered using AI-assisted tools (ChatGPT by OpenAI) and assembled by the Author using Affinity by Canva. Available under the Creative Commons CC0 1.0 Universal Public Domain Dedication: https://creativecommons.org/publicdomain/zero/1.0/deed.en

2) **Coat of Arms attributed to the Scroggs and Scrugges families of Bedfordshire (Modernized).** Coat of Arms of the Scroggs & Scrugges families of Bedfordshire, reconstructed by the Author/Compiler from historical blazons in the Public Domain. *See The Visitations of Bedfordshire, Annis Domini 1566, 1582, and 1634* (published 1884 by the Harleian Society), at pages 154 and 195; *Fairbairn's Book of Crests* (4th ed. 1905) at page 497; *Scruggs Genealogy* (1912) at pages 7-9; "Pedigree of the Scroggs Family" in *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica*, Fifth Series (Series V), Volume 3, pages 65-82 (1918-1919) by J. Renton Dunlop, with Scroggs Coat of Arms at/between pages 72-73, note 2 (Arms of Scroggs) at pages 80-81. Individual elements were rendered using AI-assisted tools (ChatGPT by OpenAI) and assembled by the Author using Affinity by Canva. Modernized by the Author, including using naturalistic colors for the Cornish Choughs on the Arms, the Pewit on the Crest, and the metal on the shield. Available under the Creative Commons CC0 1.0 Universal Public Domain Dedication: https://creativecommons.org/publicdomain/zero/1.0/deed.en

3) **Coat of Arms attributed to the Scroggs family of Hertfordshire (Traditional).** Coat of Arms of the Scroggs family of Hertfordshire, reconstructed by the Author/Compiler from historical blazons in the Public Domain. *See The Visitations of Hertfordshire, 1572, 1634* (published 1886 by the Harleian Society), at page 163; *Scruggs Genealogy* (1912) at pages 7-9. Individual elements were rendered using AI-assisted tools (ChatGPT by OpenAI) and assembled by the Author using Affinity by Canva. Available under the Creative Commons CC0 1.0 Universal Public Domain Dedication: https://creativecommons.org/publicdomain/zero/1.0/deed.en

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assembled by the Author using Affinity by Canva. Modernized by the Author, including using naturalistic colors for the Pewits on the Arms, Stork on the Crest, and metal on the shield. Available under the Creative Commons CC0 1.0 Universal Public Domain Dedication: https://creativecommons.org/publicdomain/zero/1.0/deed.en

# APPENDIX

## Excerpts from *The Visitations of Bedfordshire*

From **page 154** of *The Visitation of Bedfordshire* (Additional Pedigrees):

ALLEXANDER SCROGGS of Raynold, sonn of Thomas Scroggs of Patmore.—Argent, on a bend azure between two greyhounds courant bendways sable three Cornish choughs or.

*Crest.*—A pewit's head argent, collared gules, wings endorsed bendy of four or and sable.

From **page 195** of *The Visitation of Bedfordshire* (Additional Pedigrees):

## Scroggs

**[of Renhold].**

ARMS.—*Argent, on a bend azure between two greyhounds courant bendways sable three Cornish choughs or.*

CREST.—*A pewit's head argent, collared gules, wings endorsed, bendy of four or and sable.*

Francis Scrogs of Patmore in com. Hertfford. = Jane d. of John Newporte of Pelham in com. Hertfford.

. . . . Scrogs of Patmore.

Thomas Scrogs of Patmore in com. Hertfford. = Jane d. of Weston Browne of Abbes Roding in com. Essex. = Walter Bridges of Patmore 2 Husband.

Allexander Scrogs of Rainhold in com. Bedfford.

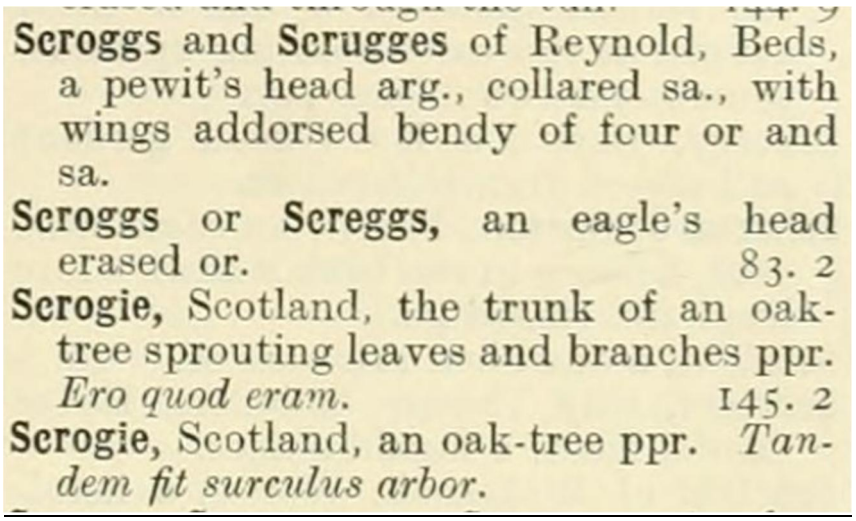
Richard Scroggs.

Will'm Bridges.

# APPENDIX

## Excerpt from *Fairbairn's Book of Crests*

From **page 497** (Appendix II) of *Fairbairn's Book of Crests*:



**Scroggs** and **Scrugges** of Reynold, Beds, a pewit's head arg., collared sa., with wings addorsed bendy of four or and sa.

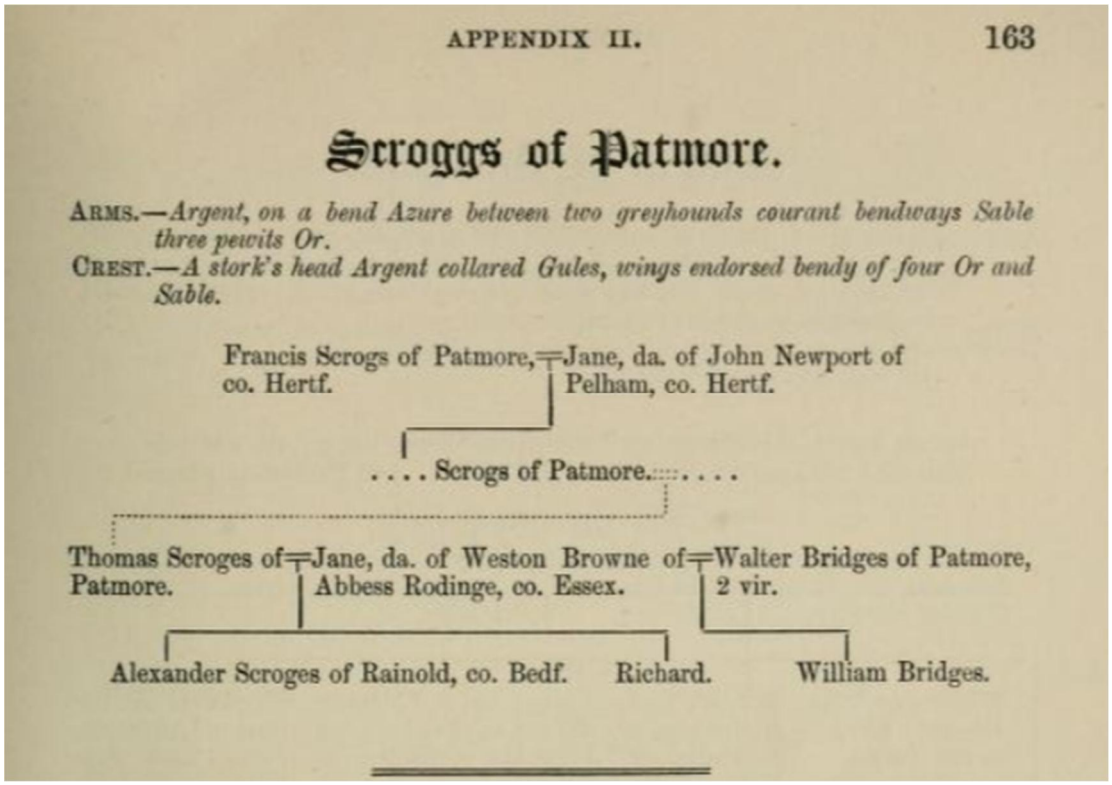
**Scroggs** or **Screggs,** an eagle's head erased or. 83. 2

**Scrogie,** Scotland, the trunk of an oak-tree sprouting leaves and branches ppr. *Ero quod eram.* 145. 2

**Scrogie,** Scotland, an oak-tree ppr. *Tandem fit surculus arbor.*

## Excerpt from *The Visitations of Hertfordshire*

From **page 163** (Appendix II) of *The Visitations of Hertfordshire*:



APPENDIX II. 163

### Scroggs of Patmore.

ARMS.—*Argent, on a bend Azure between two greyhounds courant bendways Sable three pewits Or.*

CREST.—*A stork's head Argent collared Gules, wings endorsed bendy of four Or and Sable.*

Francis Scrogs of Patmore, co. Hertf. = Jane, da. of John Newport of Pelham, co. Hertf.

.... Scrogs of Patmore. ....

Thomas Scroges of Patmore. = Jane, da. of Weston Browne of Abbess Rodinge, co. Essex. = Walter Bridges of Patmore, 2 vir.

Alexander Scroges of Rainold, co. Bedf. Richard. William Bridges.